

The Iditarod Area School District (IASD) lies in the heart of Interior Alaska. With eight geographically isolated sites in an area slightly larger than the State of Ohio and a statewide correspondence program, our proposal will focus on one goal: ***to improve academic achievement by integrating data systems.***

The data system to be integrated in this project is PowerSchool. Twenty-two of Alaska's fifty-four school districts, including IASD, purchased PowerSchool as their student information system (SIS). PowerSchool is a SIF (school interoperability framework) compliant comprehensive web-based software system built to have flexibility for modification and expansion through a complex report engine and web page customization. The total cost of ownership for a SIS such as PowerSchool includes network and software administrators, custom software developers, implementation cost, initial and on-going professional development. Most districts do not have these resources and are left owning an expensive ineffective SIS.

With nearly half of Alaska's school districts owning PowerSchool, a statewide consortia sharing developed software modules, reports and methods could save thousands of state dollars in replicated expenditures. Our project goals are to ***customize and integrate our SIS data system*** and to ***provide a web-based forum to disseminate State report templates, instructional aids for professional development and SIF compliant software modules.***

This project aligns with *the Alaska State Education Technology Plan's* Goal 4; Objective C and Actions 1, 2, 4 and 5.

This project proposal can be broken into three objectives:

1. Establish site technology assistants.
2. Configure the SIS to meet district office needs.
3. Configure the SIS to meet instructional staff needs.